

Agenda:

- announce grant from Housatonic Heritage
- discuss the work to be done on the trails and a schedule to do so
- introduce Erika Ludwig to committee as potential member

Attendance: Jennifer Brown, Hilary Penglase, Erika Ludwig

The Housatonic Heritage has offered matching funds of \$4,000.00 in response to a grant application made by Jennifer Brown. The funds are designated for four projects: cleaning seasonal debris from trails and woods, blazing trails, mapping trails and creating signs and maps of the trails. The French Park Fund will contribute a portion of the money needed to match the grant but the remaining money must come from fund raising efforts.

From a total budget of \$8,000.00, the breakdown of expenses is expected to be as follows: cleaning - \$2,600.00, blazing - \$2,400.00, mapping - \$0 (provided by a member of the Greenagers as an internship project), and signage - \$1,600.00.

The blazing of the trails, also involving Greenagers, is a matching contribution; \$2,400 being paid for and an additional \$2,400 worth of work contributed by the group.

Two signs will be needed to showcase the trail maps and provide take-away copies for people to use throughout the park. One will be installed at the trailhead behind the pavilion and the other at the entrance to the Chapel Road on Prospect Lake Road. Initial design wish list includes a roofed structure of wood, preferably cedar, that uses a plexiglass cover over an approximately 3' x 4' paper map and section for gratitude for contributors/sponsors to the project, and an attached small covered box to hold smaller take-away copies of the trail map. Jennifer will inquire with a local carpenter for availability to build the signs and an estimate of associated costs and will also pursue donations for the materials.

Creating a more detailed list of the needed tasks and a schedule for the work will be done by Jennifer Brown and Will Conklin. **Oversite?**

A discussion about how to obtain the matching funds not provided by the French Park Fund led to questions about donations to and user fees for the park, maintenance of the park and its various facilities (ball fields, courts, playgrounds, horse rink, pavilion, etc.), and the relationship between the park and the town. A list of questions regarding these topics will be developed by the committee and collected by Hilary to present to Mary Brazie and/or the Selectmen. Hilary will research the original gift description of Mrs. French and the monies she set aside to provide support for the park.

Erika Ludwig was introduced by Jennifer Brown to Hilary Penglase and offered to take notes of the discussion. The process of incorporating a new member was described and Jennifer and Hilary agreed to speak to Mary Brazie and Peg Muskrat in order to have Erika join the committee. It was presumed that Erika would attend the Selectman meeting on April 3rd or 10th and that the next Committee meeting would be the 4th or the 11th at Jennifer Brown's house, 7:00 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Erika Ludwig